

To His Grace Her Majesties High Commissioner and
the Honourable Estates of Parliament.

The Humble Petition of the peer, Shank Warkent and
Fingren Spinners of Aberdeen, and Places there
about.

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Sheweth,

THat we are right fain to hear that your Grace and Lord-
ships have in your great Wisdom thought fit to dis-
charge the carrying away the other Quantities the Wool of this
Kingdom. Our bread Benison light upon ye all for this guid
deed & let it never gang by you, for this grit encouragement to
us peer things, who are fain to warble and wark late and air
for a bit of Bread the our Mouths, and the Mouths of our poor
Babies.

We are likewise right fain to hear that we will all be
made up by this Eunion that's gane on between the two King-
doms, for the Cheeper Lads that buy our Guide and Gear
tell us, that we'll get a mikle better off gate for our Shanks
and Fingrens after the Eunion than ever we had in our Days.
The reason they ga for it is, that they say all these sort of
Guide are mikle dearer in *England* than here, particularly
they assure us, that than they ha taken in some pieces of our
Fingrens wrapt about their Packs of Linnen, they have Sold
them for a third more than it cost here, besides a guid piece
of our come measure: They say the same thing of our com-

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most Shanks, some of which they have Ventured to carry into
England tho there be Laws against the same, and these Lads tell
us that if they had withgate to carry in Shanks Fingrins and
other Guide we make, into England, (as they say they may
doe if once the Eension was compleated) they could make
very near double their Money by the return of sick Guide as
they could bring back.

Since we heard of the Eension we ha ay been speering at every
body about it, & we ha learnt mikle anent it, that it will be a
very Guide thi, g; among others pha ha said us of the great
vantages of it, we are informed by a a gay aldserane Carle, a
Seaman who has been in all the far off Quintries, that he has
been in places phar the *English* Trade too, and that we may Trade
too after the Eension, phar they will get more than twenty
pounds of Tobacco for an Ell of our Fingrins, and 40 or 50
for a pair of Common Shanks that we sell for 14 or 16
shilling.

He sayt there is another far off Quintry called the *Afri-*
can, phar they get Goud Dust and Slipsh Teeth for Plaide
and Killimeers slight Stuffs that may be there exchanged
for great ventage, and that which incourages too *English* to
Trade thither, is that the Queen sends ov'r great Lords and
Gentlemen ane errand to these Quintrys, to see that the peo-
pl there do not wrong and Cheat her Subjects, and if they
get not Justice deen them, they send hame word too the
Queen to stop all the Ships and Guide of the folk of these
Quintrys that are in *England*, and if the ha none there, Her
Majesty will send o're mikle Ships with great Guns and de-
stroy the Sea Coast Towns of these Quintries phar her Sub-
jects have been abused till sit sick time as full mende is made
for the wrong done. He says in these far off Quintries our
folk



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I dare not Trade for want of the like power to protect
them, but if once the Eunion were made up, the greatest King
in the World will stand in aw to mickle with a Scots man tee
do him wrang.

But tee come hame again, we hear yont Grace and the
Lords of Parliament have sent for some of the Wool Mer-
chants in *Edinburgh* to take Counsel about the Wool, and are
about tee give some Inkiragement to the South Quintry Lairds
for the loss they will suffer by discharging the Wool tee be
carry'd away.

If a Curn peer thingt that he na mickle Wot might advise
Your Grace and Lordships, we wad say, mickle nothing with
the Wool Merchants of *Edinburgh*, for they'et a Curn Siving-
our Carles that care not phaes Baizo greet and theirs had its
Young, well ken we them, if they can get a six pence mare
for a Stone of Wool in France then we wad give them, theyle
carry it ov'r to Monsieur. to Clead his Sogers with, tho we
and all our Babies should Starve at home, phan at the same
time if it come tee our hands, we wald make it tee yield three
times as mickle Silder in a foreign Mercat, if not mickle mare.

But we can tell your Grace and the Honourable Lords of
Parliament, that the South Country Lairds need not be ftyed
for the Sale of their Wool if once the Eunion ga on, for (short
sighred and peer silly things es we are,) we can very well far-
see, that phan the ports of England and the other far aff places
we ha spoke of are opened tee Receive Our Fingrins, Shanks,
Sarges Plaids Pladings Struffs and Drogets &c. There will be
a big affagte for our Guides, and we'er na sick Feels but we ken
how tee make our own vantage of sick a game, for if we
find a few mae Chapmen at a Fair then ordinary we're as lord-
ly With the Sale of our Guide as a Bony Lais that has half a

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Dozen of Woopers and if we get a good off gare for our Guide, and o's will run faster for the Wool Mercate than another and we na doubt but the Wool Masters and Merchants will ken how tee make their Vantage of that tee.

The Quibbles and Abjections that some folk make that we'll be ne're able to Card and Spin all the Wool of Scotland at hame, are so far from true, that if we had twice as mickle ther's na fear but we'll be able tee o're take it all, for litle ken they how far we are straitened to get our Living mony times for want of affgate for our Guide, and for that reason want Sild-er tee gate the wool Mercat, are fain tee Wirble knitting a pair of Shanks phen we could Card and Spin na litle Wool tee be Fingrens and other Cleath.

But not only so, are we oft Times Fain tee make mickle Work out of litle Wool, but mony of our Neighbours all the Kingdom o're, and most of our selves are fain to sit idle mony times when we have deen with our Wool and cannot get our Guide sold tee ga tee the Mercat again, unless we sell it at a Wanworth, and our Merchants make their Vantage of our need-cessity, phil in the mean time we sit with mony a Hungry Wame and mony a slight Mealrate.

We are told that some of the Wool Merchants that ha been before your Grace and Lordships, Compt that a hunder thousand Stone of Wool grows beyond Tay ilk year. We shall be ready to own all that and mickle mare, and wishes there were twice as mickle kenning very well there is Hands enough in the Qauntry to Card and Spin it all. Two Women will easily master half a Stone of clean Wool every Week at the mickle Wheel, that is 12 Stone in the year tee ilk Woman, thus 7 or 8 thousand Women will clear off a hunder thousand Stone of Wool in the year, and we are leere there is 4 or 5 times that
number

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number in the Quinry: They need not be fied, let us but
ance see off gate and Silder for our Wark, and we shall ply our
Gardes and Fingers or the soul pair off,

But as we said before, we are na at all fyeid but we will
be full off gate and Silder for our Guids if the E nion ga
on, for not only will we ha *England* and all the other far last
place to carry the samen tee, but at home phan we come to
be Bussinels and Silder, we le e'ne take twa suite of new Cleas
phan we cannot get ene now, so there na thing fleis us sa
mickle as that we shanot get Wool enough, as we are very
fee e all tee Wool of this Kingdom will never be able tee Clead
us all and be as mickle as a bean in a Barn tee the other far aff
Quinrye tee.

Ye need nor trouble Your selves about your publick Mali-
factories to get the Wool Carded and Spun, for if aunc the
Trade were opened by the E nion, all the Women in the Qu-
inry will flis upon the Wool like so many Revens upon a
deed Carion-

The Abjection some make that we cannot make Chaper
Cloath here then in *England*, is not worth a Fig, for we ken
sell well, according to the Proverb of the Chapmen that Trade
with us, that all the *Winning lyes in the first buying*
no Body can make it Chaper then we, for Seer
we are we can we leave as meanly and Work as sare as any
Thee that beere Fingers, and can scarce get our Bread of it, tho
it is chaper with us then in any place of *England*, and we ken
nane can Work or less, so let them do their best we shall as
flord our Gards cheaper then they can.

Neither are we fied that all the *London* Cleath and Bra
Clee that will be brought from *England* will wrong our Trade
a Pin, for that is only for your Gentles and Swaggers, and after
all, the same may be said to be our own handy Work, for the
Linnen

Linnen Cleath, Tikiogt Dornick, and other things of Lint taken out here will bring all these things hame and mickle more.

And tee tell your Lordships a tale of our Chapmen, phy there is less Silder due now by *England* to *Scotland* then no long sine, phan mickle *English* Guides was brought hither not only *London* Cleath, Silk Striss Silder Shakers and all other sort of Bony Wallies, which are all new forbidden. They say just now there is mony of your great Folk phan in *England* buy these things with ready Money, which they eised tee dee by *Trouk*, and that they could a brought more of these bony Wallies hame with 70 pounds worth of Guids, nor your grit Folk can da with a hunder pound in Silder and for that Reason there is not so guid aff ger for our Guids now as then.

We see mony other Vantages by the Eunion that we cou'd not tell all in a long Summer Day, such as the great aff gate that will be for our Linnen Cleath and all things made of Lint. That there will be a great Fishing set up, and Mony great Ships employed in Trading with all manner of things tee and free this Kingdom Great number of Hends employed in biging of Ships and making all mannar of things for Sea Service, for our Ships are tee be made el here, which will be a great inkiragement to our own folk at hame, and keep mickle guid Silder in the Quintry.

For we hear the *English* are all for inkiraglog their work people and put on grit Customs upon sick sort of Guids as are brought hame fully made ready for ease, but little upon rough or unpared Guids that grows not in their ain Quintry. And on the other hand they say they inkirage all things tee ga out of the Kingdom, that is fully made ready. As for example they let na Wool ga aff guid Chap nor Dear, that in case any body take away Wool after, it is Spun and made in Cleath

but not Litted and dressed they will ge them no encourage-
ment, but suffer it to go off, but if it is Litted and Dressed, upon
some sorts they give a downrogh to take it away. We canna der
ny but this is a very canny auld saren gate, and that it wald be wikle
to our Advantage if it were sea here tee (as it will be by the Ecnie
on) for then wald be in that case there Listers and Wakers in
our Town for us.

We wonder what the Carles East and West the Quintry mean
that make Addresses against the Ecnion, and what they wald b
at against it, we re seer they man be very short sighted or misweed
by na guid Spirit, we wish mony o' them be not Watermen, that
is to look at Gate and Row another.

We ha been deafened with Stories that the Customs, Excise
and Cesses we will be put under by the Ecnion will quite break
and ruin us all, and after all we hear there is a little Book came
out called Considerations on Trade Considered &c. Sold by Mr
Finchairs in the Parliamet Class which makes it as plain as a niss.
on a mans Face, that the pubrick burdeus will be less after the
Ecnion than just now, except that is tee be laid upon Salt after 7
Years which wi no be very wikle neither, for as we are told, they
sell it in England by weights as we do meal here, and that they
allow 56 pound for a Bushel, which is 52 pound of our weight, and
it pays 44 sh of Custom,

Since we heard this we have had the Kindosity tee weight a
peck of our Salt, and finds it tee be 9 pound and 2 ounces
which according tee our Reckning comes tee pay about 7 sh,
and a plaek Custom.

We ha likewise had the kindosity tee speat at some auld
sarran House keepers pha are verry nice in keeping Compt of
every thing they ware upon their Families and by their Ac.
count six pecks of our Salt is sufficient to serve a Family of 8
young

young and auld in a year, which comes to 40 million Custom
upon the 6 pecks, and being divided in 8 parts is just about
5th 6d. a head yearly, and we can very well farsee that we
may then win two pence a peck a Day more than we can do
now.

But as all the Carles that oppose the Eunion, we wonder
maist at the Phigs, and can na ken what they wad be at, for
feer we are if they stick na close like burs by the Phigs in Eng-
land, and the Low Church men that brought in King *Willi-*
am they need expect na mercy if there be a turn at affairs as
phan King *Charles* came hame. However let them be doin
they'l be the first that will rue it.

But having said mickle mair then we thought to have said,
we shall consaid with gaing you our Benission out ower again, and
prays ye may hasten forward the Eunion with all possible speed,
for we lang as mickle to see that happy day as we longed to
be Wed phan we were Brides, or as those of us who are unmar-
ied do so still, and wish that all the well meaning Carles phan
are whield into a beless that the Eunion is an ill thing had
our Spectacles, and that the Water men phan Row one Gate and
look aneether would lay by their Oars, and put up. *Saml*, that
they may look and Steer one Gate.

